

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-12, and 14 remain in the application, and have not been further amended herein.

The notification that claims 8-11 are allowed, and that claims 6 and 7 are drawn to allowable subject matter is acknowledged and appreciated. It is believed that the remaining claims are also drawn to allowable subject matter as set forth below.

As noted previously, the disclosed and claimed invention is directed to time division duplex indoor wireless communication networks that employ a frequency look ahead, packet/slave scheduling scheme and master/slave link characterization using a link state history table in the master unit in order to account for channel and system characteristics. In these systems, the master unit needs to detect problems in communication and take necessary actions to prevent loss of packets during periods of interference. This invention provides a method of combating the problem of interference from external sources and shadowing objects in indoor pico-cellular wireless networks which utilizes frequency look ahead and short-term history about channel state with reference to different mobile units within a pico-cell. The method monitors the states of master-slave wireless communications links through values recorded in link counters. Based on the recorded values, an appropriate slave is scheduled and the suitable packet size is chosen to overcome the effect of interfering sources, if any, in the pico-cell.

Claims 1-3, 5, 12 and 14 have been rejected as being anticipated by Wakayama. This rejection is traversed.

Claim1

In Wakayama et. al. two separate frequency hopping patterns are used for performing voice and non-voice communication, and nowhere is there any involvement of a second frequency selection unit as used in the claimed invention. In the invention only one frequency hopping pattern is used and the second frequency selection unit is used to determine frequencies that will be used in future slots in the same frequency hopping pattern. This clearly distinguishes the invention from Wakayama et al.

Claim 2

In Wakayama et. al. logic units are not used to perform frequency hop selection but hopping tables are used. In using distinct logic units to perform frequency hop selection, the claimed invention is different from Wakayama et al.

Claim 3

In the claimed invention, pico-cell related binary information is provided physically to the frequency selection units, whereas in Wakayama et. al. there is no separate frequency hop selection unit that receives address and clock bit information.

Claims 5 & 12

The counters shown in Fig. 3 of Wakayama et. al. are standard frame and hopping counters that are required in any frequency hopping communication system. In the claimed invention, there are separate $i \times j$ link state counters that are used to record link states with reference to each frequency and each slave.

Claim 14

Unlike in the claimed invention, nowhere in Wakayama et. al. is an expected state of wireless links with reference to interference involved as the proposed scheme therein basically does not at all address the problem of interference.

In view of the above, the subject matter of claims 1-3, 5, 12 and 14 are distinct from the subject matter disclosed in Wakayama, and the rejection over the same should be withdrawn.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephone or personal interview.

A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041 (Whitham,

Curtis & Christofferson).

Respectfully submitted,



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Please associate this

Application with

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